

OLC 67-0219

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DD/S 67-5050

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

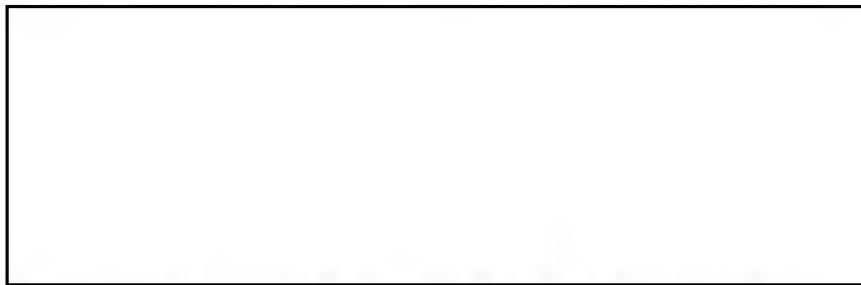
SUBJECT : Reported Agency interest in the "Wiggle Seat"

1. This memorandum is in response to your inquiry concerning the Houston Chronicle article on the silent lie detector as reported by James K. Eatten of the Chicago Daily News Service.

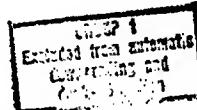
2. The opening paragraph is patently untrue. CIA has not and is not now supporting such research. ORD and other interested Agency components seriously doubt the validity of any lie detection test where the tester is unaware that he is being tested. The Agency is aware through normal liaison channels that the Department of Defense, and specifically the Air Force, has been interested in the use of the Kubis chair, more recently known as the Falco chair, as a training and evaluation device for use in survival and interrogation resistance training; and NASA has been interested in its use as a test of astronaut responses. ORD maintains this liaison. No Agency support to this A&D effort has been given nor is any contemplated.

3. The article states that both CIA and NSA have shown intense interest. We have no knowledge of any interest in a covert polygraph by NSA.

4. Since as early as 1955, proposals and development models have been presented to the Agency by a number of companies. Those that are recorded are:



None of these proposals or devices have been supported or purchased.

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5. We continue to be interested in polygraph validation and development of improved testing of physiological and psychological reactions. Attached is a list of polygraph related projects. A review of these has been made and none are related to the "wiggle seat" or directly related to any other kind of covert polygraphy.

6. As an indication of the amount of attention that is being generated on the polygraph, there is attached the program of the Second Annual Seminar of the American Polygraph Association which was held from 21-23 August 1967 in Las Vegas. One of the speakers, C.B. Manacom of the University of Minnesota, made a report on instrumental research which dealt with the Philco chair.

[Redacted]
Deputy Director
for Support

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Attn.

cc: DDCI

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